Wood working tools - owned by T. Lincoln Drawer 29a Tools

71.2007.085.04606

Curios and Relics

Tools

Woodworking Tools

Owned by Thomas Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085 04606

PLANE AND AUGER Once owned by Thomas Lincoln

TUSCOLA ILL JOUR (weekly)
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1930.

ROBERT BERRY HAS RELICS OF LINCOLN

Old Jack Plane and Brace for Bits Had Been In Lincoln Family for Many Years

Robert Berry, of this city, has a Jack plane and a brace for auger bits, both of which were used in the Lincoln family in Kentucky. The plane was used and owned by Thomas Lincoln. It is of regular length, about 20 inches long, and made of sugar wood. The blade looks as if it might have been hammered out by a blacksmith, and the wood part carved out by hand. The brace is ornamented with brass, and bears the date of 1731. The plane belonged to Thomas Lincoln, when he lived in Kentucky, where Abe Lincoln was born, and the brace was the property of Thomas Lincoln's father and the date indicates that it was in the Lincoln family in a very early day.

Mr. Berry says that the history of these tools as well as the tools come to him through his grandfather, Nathaniel Petty, who lived near the Lincolns in Kentucky. In trading back and forth or borrowing, the tools were left in possession of Nathaniel Petty when the Lincoln family left Kentucky. The Lincoln family located first in Indiana, and later in Illinois and finally established a home near Johnstown, which was the last Lincoln home. This cabin was moved to the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893. Thomas Lincoln and his wife are buried near the Shiloh church. Abraham Lincoln often visited his parents at the Coles County home, but never lived there. Many of the old relics, the old bureau, the old family bible and Lincoln's old law books, now in the exhibits at Springfield, were in the double cabin, just before it was taken to Chicago.

These relics owned by Mr. Berry bear marks that would indicate that the story is a true one, and they were once a part of the set of tools used by the Lincoln family.

When Nathaniel Petty left Kentucky, he came to Illinois and settled in Champaign county. J. B. Petty, a grandson of Nathaniel Petty, now lives in Effingham where he conducts the largest store in the city.